

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An improved method for an e-commerce retailer to display and sell items of a third party comprising:

identifying ~~one or more~~ each item_{[[s]]} of a third party supplier with a unique identifier;

associating the unique identifier of the item with an image of the item, said image

residing on a computer maintained by the third party supplier;

in response to a product request from a user to the e-commerce retailer, the e-commerce

retailer presenting at least some of the images of third party supplier items to ~~a~~ the

user for on-line commerce, said images being retrieved from said computer

maintained by the third party supplier; and

in response to an order request from the user to the e-commerce retailer, for one or more items,

identifying, based at least in part on said unique identifier, each item requested

and an appropriate third party supplier for each requested item_{[[;]]}

automatically generating an order for each requested item to be transparently sent

to the third party supplier.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the items include products.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the items include services.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the images of items include graphic images.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the images of items include descriptive text.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a given unique identifier references a corresponding product Stock Keeping Unit (SKU) numbers.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a given unique identifier references pricing information from a third party.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a given unique identifier references order fulfillment information.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of presenting includes:

requesting images from a third party supplier;

receiving a list of Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) for said requested images; and

displaying an on-line page that displays images retrieved from said URLs.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the request for images includes background and formatting information of a particular third party supplier.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a particular third party supplier provides photo-finishing services and the images correspond to user photographic images.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a given third party supplier provides Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) for images in various sizes and formats, thereby enabling retrieval and display of images to the user in various sizes and formats.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a given third party supplier initially provides smaller thumbnail images of the items and provides larger images in response to user requests.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a given third party supplier evaluates the request for images or descriptions and automatically indicates whether corresponding items are available.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the unique identifier associated with a given item is stored in a user's shopping cart when the user selects the item.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the images are rendered on a Web page for display to the user.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the unique identifier of an item requested by the user is employed for placing a fulfillment request with a corresponding third party supplier.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically splitting an order including individual order items from more than one third party suppliers; and

assigning fulfillment of individual order items to the appropriate third party suppliers.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein an order including items from the retailer and items from one or more third party suppliers is split amongst the retailer and the appropriate third party suppliers.

20. – 57. (Cancelled)

58. (Currently Amended) A system providing an improved method for an e-commerce retailer to display and sell items of a third party, said system comprising:

an e-commerce retailer to identify ~~[[an]]~~ each item of a third party supplier with a unique identifier;

an image server module for receiving user information requests from the e-commerce retailer regarding certain third party supplier items, and transparently providing images and descriptions of said items retrieved from a computer maintained by the third party supplier in response to user information requests; and

an order engine module, in communication with said image server module, for processing orders for third party supplier items.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the items include products.
60. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the items include services.
61. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the items include graphic images corresponding to photo-finishing services offered to a user, at least some graphic images being based on photographs previously taken by the user.
62. (Cancelled)
63. (Cancelled)
64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the order engine module automatically determines an appropriate third party fulfiller for each item.
65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the order engine module:
- automatically splits an order among more than one third party suppliers; and
- automatically assigns fulfillment of individual order items to one or more appropriate third party suppliers.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the order engine module splits orders including items from the retailer and items from one or more third parties fulfillers amongst the retailer and appropriate third party fulfillers.

67. (Currently Amended) A[[n]] computer readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed on a processing system, cause said processing system to perform a method comprising ~~improved e-commerce system for providing products and services of third parties, said system comprising:~~

identifying each item of a third party supplier with a unique identifier;

associating the unique identifier of the item with an image of the item, said image

residing on a computer maintained by the third party supplier;

~~a computer implemented program logic to transparently presenting, by an e-commerce system,~~ third party supplier items to a user for on-line commerce;

~~computer implemented program logic for receiving user information requests at the e-commerce system~~ regarding certain graphic images from an item presentation

program logic, and providing digital images for display wherein said digital images are retrieved from a computer system maintained by the third party supplier; and

~~computer implemented program logic for processing orders for graphic images to be~~ transparently sent to the appropriate third party supplier.

68. – 72. (Cancelled)

73. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ computer readable medium of claim 67, wherein the ~~computer implemented program logic for processing orders~~ further comprises:

automatically splitting ~~splits~~ an order including individual graphic images from more than one third party fulfiller, and assigning ~~assigns~~ fulfillment of individual order items to one or more appropriate third party fulfillers.

74. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ computer readable medium of claim 67, wherein the ~~computer implemented program logic for processing orders~~ further comprises:

splitting ~~splits~~ orders including items from the retailer and items from one or more third parties fulfillers amongst the retailer and the appropriate third party fulfillers.

75. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ computer readable medium of claim 67, wherein the ~~order engine module~~ processing orders further comprises:

automatically determining ~~determines~~ a source of fulfillment of each graphic image.

76. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed on a processing system, cause said processing system to perform a method ~~system~~ comprising:

~~a tagging logic to identifying, with a tagging logic, one or more~~ each item[[s]] of a third party supplier with a unique identifier[[s]], each unique identifier associated with data about that item;

~~an e-commerce logic to transparently presenting, with an e-commerce logic,~~ at least some
of the items to a user for on-line commerce in response to a user information request
for a third party supplier item;

~~an XML request logic to retrieving[[e]] the data, with an XML request logic,~~ about the
one or more items from a third party supplier website, and enabling the e-commerce
logic to present the data to the user for the on-line commerce; and

~~an order engine to processing~~ orders for items with an order engine.

77. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ computer readable medium of claim 76, wherein the
data is image data.

78. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ computer readable medium of claim 76, wherein the
items include products.

79. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ computer readable medium of claim 76, wherein the
items include services.